

Expressway News

April 2025

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Spring into Safer Roads, Big Milestones, and Stronger Communities



As Central Texas continues to grow, so does our commitment to keeping people moving safely, efficiently, and responsibly. This month we're highlighting the importance of staying alert behind the wheel, celebrating a major milestone on one of our projects, and sharing how we're showing up for our communities—from local events to long-term sustainability efforts.

Recommitting and Strengthening Safe Driving Habits

April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month—a time to reflect on a serious and preventable threat to roadway safety. In 2023 alone, distracted driving claimed the lives of <u>3,275 people</u>. With ever-evolving technology and constant demands for our attention, the risk of crashes caused by distractions continues to rise.

April is a time to recommit to safe driving habits and encourage those around us to do the same. Use these affirmations as daily reminders to stay focused behind the wheel:

Phones and vehicles don't mix.

I silence my phone and set my navigation before I drive because no message is worth risking a life.

Driving is my only focus.

I don't let distractions like food, the radio, or conversations take my eyes off the road.

I speak up to keep others safe.

If I see someone driving distracted, I gently remind them to stay alert. Safety starts with accountability.

I make a difference when I commit to safe driving.

By committing to drive alert, I help protect myself, my passengers, and everyone on the road.

National Work Zone Awareness Week RESPECT THE SO WE ALL GET WORK ZONE

With continued growth across Central Texas, safe driving habits are more important than ever. Active work zones are no exception. April 21–25 marked National Work Zone Awareness Week, a time to remind ourselves that extra caution is essential in these areas. Work zones can present unexpected challenges for drivers, including uneven pavement, narrow lanes, concrete barriers, slow-moving equipment, and vehicles that stop suddenly. These zones are also often staffed by roadside workers who depend on us to drive safely.

Here's how you can do your part:

- **Slow down:** Follow posted speed limits and pay close attention to work zone signage.
- **Stay alert:** Distractions can wait until you arrive at your destination. Put your phone away and keep your eyes on the road.
- **Don't tailgate:** Traffic can stop abruptly in work zones. Give yourself plenty of space.
- Watch for workers: Be especially mindful of those in reflective vests and neon clothing.

• **Plan ahead:** Allow extra time for your commute. Visit <u>DriveTexas.org</u> to check for work zone updates.

Let's work together to protect roadside crews and fellow drivers. Recommit to safe driving—every zone, every time.

Project Milestone

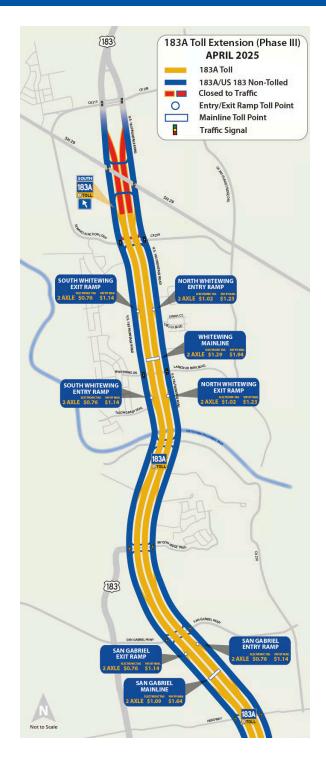
The Mobility Authority is excited to announce that the principal 5-mile segment of the 183A Phase III Project is now open to drivers! This extension of the 183A Toll Road was designed to proactively address growing traffic demand and provide faster, more reliable travel options for the region. We appreciate the community's continued patience and support throughout construction.

The 183 Phase III Project aims to provide reliable options for commuters who choose to use the tolled lanes, as well as improve functionality of the non-tolled general-purpose lanes and intersections. With this extension, drivers can now enjoy nearly 16 miles of non-stop travel between Liberty Hill and northwest Austin—bypassing traffic signals at Hero Way, San Gabriel Parkway, Bryson Ridge Trail, and Whitewing Drive.

What's Next?

Crews will continue working in the coming weeks to complete:

- The final segment of the 183A Toll main lanes, allowing drivers to bypass the signalized intersection at SH 29
- Non-tolled improvements north of SH
 29
- The adjacent Shared Use Path
- Landscaping and other aesthetic elements



Stay Informed

For updates on the final stages of construction and to be the first to know when the project is fully open, visit the 183A Phase III <u>project website</u> or follow <u>@183Atoll</u> on X.

Tag Along and Save

Planning to drive the new segment? Drivers with an electronic tag save 33% on their tolls! Without a tag, you'll receive a bill through the Pay By Mail program, sent to the address on file with the TxDMV for your vehicle.

Learn More About Electronic Tags

Community Highlights

Connecting with the communities we serve is how we build better, smarter solutions for Central Texas. From neighborhood events to regional conversations on infrastructure and the environment, we've had a busy spring, and we're just getting started. Look for us out and about all summer long!

Recent Highlights:

Cedar Fest | March 29

We had a blast at Elizabeth Milburn Park during Cedar Park Chamber of Commerce Cedar Fest. We connected with the community, handed out swag, and helped attendees sign up for electronic tags so they can save on tolls.



<u>Austin Chamber of Commerce</u> <u>Infrastructure Summit | April 8</u>

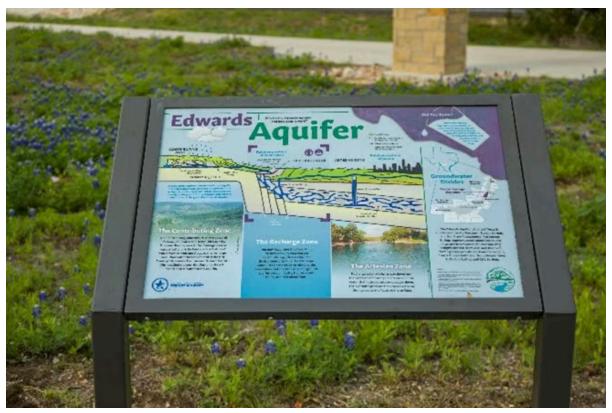
The Mobility Authority attended the Austin Chamber Infrastructure Summit, which brought together local leaders and experts to discuss the future of Austin's infrastructure from transportation to water, energy, and more.



East Austin Growth Summit | April 24

We also joined this year's East Austin Growth Summit, a panel discussion put on by the Austin Business Journal highlighting the developments and emerging growth opportunities

Celebrating Earth Day



This year marks the 55th observance of Earth Day, but our commitment to the environment extends far beyond a single day. Environmental stewardship is built into every project we deliver, from preserving natural and cultural landmarks to investing in sustainable infrastructure.

Here's how we're making a difference:

- Reducing emissions and light pollution through innovative design.
- Enhancing corridors with thoughtful landscaping and design elements.
- Investing in bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.
- Restoring historic assets like the Montopolis Bridge for active transportation.

And here's how you can get involved year-round:

- **Ride the bus:** CapMetro buses travel toll-free on all Mobility Authority roads.
- **Bike or walk:** Our <u>mobility solutions</u> include Shared Use Paths, bridges, sidewalks, and trail signage about the region.
- **Plant something:** Trees improve air quality, reduce erosion, and beautify communities. We've planted over 10,000 so far, and we're not stopping anytime soon.

Let's keep building a greener, more connected Central Texas, together.

Stay in the Loop

Follow us on social or visit <u>MobilityAuthority.com</u> for the latest news, travel tips, and updates.







Sent to: cristina.tangredi@atkinsrealis.com

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Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority, 3300 N IH-35 Suite 300, Austin, Texas 78705, United States